CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A voting apparatus for display of candidates for
5   offices in elective races and selective voting by a voter
to elect one of said candidates, comprising:

a central processor operative to present for display a
sequential series of ballot screens, each ballot screen
corresponding to one elective race and including a
10 candidate information block having a text name and a
graphic image associated with each of at least one
candidate for election by voters in the elective race;

a touch-sensitive video display monitor communicating
a signal representative of a selected location of a touch
15 by a voter to the central processor, which touch is made at
the display of the candidate information block for whom the
voter intends to vote,

whereby the central processor detects which of the at
least one candidate information blocks was selected by the
20 voter; and

a communicator to transfer the vote to a tabulator for
summing the votes for the selected one of the at least one
candidate.

2.   The voting apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a pair of mirrored storage devices to record the summation of the votes by the tabulator.

3. The voting apparatus at recited in claim 1, wherein the central processor further displays a proposition screen having a recitation of the proposition and graphics images representative of the proposition and the negative of the proposition.

4.   The voting apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a printer operatively connected to the central processor for printing a voter validation receipt.

5.   The voter apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a communications device for connecting the central processor to a vote tabulation center over a telecommunications network, whereby the summation of votes is communicated.

6.   The voter apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising at least one speaker/headphones connected to the central processor for making an audible recitation to the voter of the names of the candidate prior to the voter voting.

7. The voter apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein each ballot screen in the sequential series includes at least a return button that is selectively activate to return to a prior screen.

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8. The voter apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein each candidate information block includes a positive graphic to indicate the selection of the candidate in response to the voter selecting one of the candidate

10   information blocks by touching the video screen.

9. The voter apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein the selected candidate information block in one of the ballot screens remains selected until the voter selects

15   another of the candidate information blocks in said one of the ballot screens, whereupon the positive graphic in the selected candidate information block is changed to a negative graphic and the another of the candidate information blocks is changed to a positive graphic.

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10. The voter apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a summary screen providing a report of the selected candidates in the series of ballot screens and a vote selection button to finalize the vote of the voter.

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11.   The voter apparatus as recited in claim 10, further comprising a printer operatively connected to the central processor for printing a voter validation receipt subsequent to the voter activating the vote selection
5   button.

12.   A method of voting for one of at least one candidate for office in at least one elective races by a voter, comprising the steps of:

10   (a) displaying a sequential series of ballot screens, each ballot screen corresponding to one elective race and including a candidate information block associated with each of at least one candidate for election by voters in the elective race; and

15   (b) the voter touching a touch-sensitive video display monitor to communicating a signal representative of a selected location of a touch by a voter to a central processor, which touch is made at the display of the candidate information block for whom the voter intends to
20   vote,

whereby the central processor detects which of the at least one candidate information blocks was selected by the voter.

13.   The method of voting as recited in claim 12, further comprising the step of summing the votes for the selected one of the at least one candidate by a tabulator.

5   14.   The method of voting as recited in claim 13, further comprising the step of recording the votes in a pair of mirrored storage devices.

15.   The method of voting as recited in claim 12, 10   further comprising the step of displaying a proposition screen having a recitation of a voter proposition and graphics images representative of the proposition and the negative of the proposition, for selection by the voter.

15   16.   The method of voting as recited in claim 12, further comprising the step of printing a voter validation receipt subsequent to the voting by the voter.

17.   The method of voting as recited in claim 12, 20   further comprising the step of communicating the vote of the voter to a vote tabulation center over a telecommunications network.

18.   The method of voting as recited in claim 12, 25   further comprising the step of making an audible recitation

to the voter of the names of the candidate prior to the voter voting.

19. The method of voting as recited in claim 12, further comprising the step of selectively moving from one ballot screen to another of said ballot screens in sequence.

20. The method of voting as recited in claim 12, further comprising the step of displaying a positive graphic in the selected candidate information block.

21. The voter apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the positive graphic remains displayed in the selected candidate information block in said one of the ballot screens until the voter selects another of the candidate information blocks, whereupon the positive graphic in the selected candidate information block is changed to a negative graphic and the another of the candidate information blocks is changed to the positive graphic.

22. The method of voting as recited in claim 12, further comprising the step of providing a summary screen displaying the selected candidates in the series of ballot

screens for verification prior to the voter finalizing the vote.

23.   The method of voting as recited in claim 22, further comprising the step of printing a voter validation receipt subsequent to the voter finalizing the vote.

24.   The method of voting, further comprising the steps of:

(c) generating a voter validation number containing indicia of the voter and the voting by the voter;

(d) providing a voter validation receipt containing the voter validation number and a report of the vote by the voter; and

(e) validating the vote by the voter comparing the report of the vote with the election results tabulated by a vote tabulation center.